

CLAIMS:

1. A method of operating a storage device sensitive to vibrations in an environment with a source of vibrations, characterized in that the method comprises the following steps:

(a) monitoring the performance of the storage device, and

5 (b) when the performance of the storage device decreases below a pre-determined level, taking action to reduce the influence of vibrations generated by the source of vibrations.

2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the performance of the storage device is indicated by service time statistics of the storage device.

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3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the performance of the storage device is indicated by the average bit-rate of the storage device.

4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the action comprises the step of
15 providing a message to a user to reduce the vibrations.

5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the source of vibrations is at least one loudspeaker, and the loudspeaker and the storage device comprised in the same housing.

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6. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the source of vibrations is a loudspeaker and the action is reduction of the volume of the sound produced by the loudspeaker.

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7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the performance decreases below the pre-determined level and the environmental temperature of the storage device is above a further pre-determined level, no action is taken.

8. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein
(a) the housing is a consumer electronics apparatus;

- (b) the storage device is arranged to record an incoming stream of audio-visual data;
- (c) the consumer electronics apparatus is arranged to reproduce the incoming stream of audio-visual data by means of a screen and the loudspeaker; and
- wherein the method comprises the steps of:
- 5 (d) storing the incoming stream of audio-visual data on a disk by the storage device; and
- (e) reproducing the stored stream of audio-visual data stored on the disk by means of a screen and the loudspeaker.

9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the action to reduce the influence of
10 vibrations generated by the source of vibrations comprises the step of advising a user to display the incoming stream of audio-visual data instead of the stored stream of audio-visual data.

10. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein
15 (a) the housing is a consumer electronics apparatus arranged to reproduce audio-visual data;
(b) at least one further loudspeaker, not comprised by the consumer electronics apparatus, is connected to the consumer electronics apparatus; and
(c) the action comprises the steps of:
20 i.) halting reproduction of the audio-visual data through the loudspeaker comprised by the consumer electronics apparatus; and
ii.) starting reproduction of the audio-visual data through the further loudspeaker.

11. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the source of vibrations is comprised by a first apparatus and the storage device is comprised by a second apparatus; the first and
25 the second apparatus are connected through a network link; and the action is controlling the second apparatus by reducing the power of the vibrations caused by the source of vibrations.

12. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pre-determined level is replaced by a further lower pre-determined level when the performance of the storage device is below
30 the predetermined level during a pre-determined period.

13. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the vibrations are vibrations in a structure comprising the storage device.

14. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the vibrations are airborne vibrations.

15. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storage device is a disk drive.

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16. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the action is halting activities related to the storage device other than storage and retrieval of audio-visual data.

17. Circuit for operating a storage device in an environment with a source of 10 vibrations, the circuit comprising a processor, characterized in that the processor is conceived to:

- (a) monitor the performance of the storage device; and
- (b) when the performance of the storage device decreases below a pre-determined level, take action to reduce the influence of vibrations generated by the source of vibrations.

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18. Consumer electronics apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for receiving a stream of audio-visual data;
- (b) a storage device arranged to store the stream of audio-visual data on a disk;
- (c) a source of vibrations;
- (d) the circuit according to claim 17 for controlling the storage device.

19. Consumer electronics apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the source of vibrations is a disk drive arranged to spin a disk in operation.

25 20. Consumer electronics apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the source of vibrations is a loudspeaker.